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GENERAL

Basic U. S. Policy Considerations Concerning Refugees.

United States assistance towards the solution of refugee problems (whether given unilaterally, through international agencies or in the form of surplus food) is consistent with the basic U. S. political objective of securing the extension of institutional freedom and personal liberty and well being throughout the world.

The United States should promote and assist in the solution of refugee problems as an integral part of its policy of promoting peace, recognizing that refugee problems--arising from political antagonism, arbitrary action or disregard of human rights--are a locus of controversy and bitterness potentially prejudicial to the maintenance of peace.

United States assistance to refugees serves the political objective of exemplifying before world opinion the humanitarianism which is the fundamental difference between free and captive societies.

United States assistance to refugees, many of whom are in under-developed countries, helps to promote the political and economic stability of such countries; and it helps enhance U. S. prestige within these countries, as well as to cement friendly relations between the governments of these countries and our own.

By assisting refugees from Communism, the United States helps to extend the benefits of freedom to those who have rejected Communism; to promote faith among captive populations in the purposes and prospects of freedom and democracy; and to facilitate the programs and objectives of U. S. intelligence agencies.

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Lastly, by aiding asylum countries in reducing their refugee burdens, the United States helps to ensure the future maintenance of generous asylum policies: a tradition deeply rooted in our heritage, and fundamentally related to our over-all foreign policy objectives.

DESCRIPTION OF CERTAIN REFUGEE SITUATIONS IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PROVIDE ASSISTANCE

1. Refugees from Soviet bloc countries.

There are an estimated 60,000 refugees from Soviet bloc countries in asylum countries (chiefly in Europe), and a continuing influx of 2,500 per year escaping from bloc countries. These refugees are a conspicuous symbol of anti-communism.

The provision of U. S. assistance to this group, especially to those who continue to escape, serves U. S. propaganda objectives in free and captive countries alike; facilitates the attainment of certain U. S. intelligence objectives; and helps enable asylum countries to maintain generous asylum for future arrivals.

2. Yugoslav Refugees.

Yugoslav refugees escaping from Yugoslavia are currently arriving in European asylum countries at the rate of 8,000 per year, and there is an additional backlog of 10,000 Yugoslav refugees in these countries.

It is in the political interest of the United States to assist Yugoslav refugees as a means of helping friendly asylum countries to cope with a burdensome problem, as an expression of our sympathy for those who have fled from conditions

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at an estimated rate of 2,000 per year. These refugees, who in the main present pressing relief needs, must be resettled for the most part within the countries which have granted them asylum.

The Tibetans, like the Hungarian refugees of 1956, are victims of particularly brutal Communist oppression. Our sympathy for them and for their enslaved countrymen in Tibet is symbolized and communicated through the provision of U. S. assistance. The Governments of India and Nepal, having courageously granted asylum to the refugees despite contrary Communist Chinese pressures, face substantial problems in re-establishing the refugees. United States assistance serves politically to support these governments in the granting of asylum, and economically to help them resolve the problem. It thus forges bonds of good will between these governments and the United States.

5. Cuban Refugees outside the United States.

An estimated 10,000 refugees from Cuba are residing in Spain, Latin American countries, and elsewhere. Some of them present acute needs for relief and resettlement assistance.

The provision of U. S. assistance to these refugees, to enable them to become self-dependent in the free world, will demonstrate U. S. concern for refugees fleeing from Communist domination, will be consistent with the basic opposition of the U. S. Government to the Communist seizure of Cuba and will parallel U. S. efforts through the OAS to isolate the Castro regime.

6. Laotians

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6. Laotian Refugees in Laos.

Communist fomented warfare in Laos brought about the displacement of their homes within Laos of ^{180,000} ~~100,000~~ persons. These refugees face acute relief needs, and must be rehabilitated within Laos. Most of them are anti-Communists and were displaced as a result of Communist guerrilla warfare.

It is in the interest of the United States, in conjunction with our effort to promote the stability of Laos under a neutralist government, to provide assistance for the relief and prompt rehabilitation of all the refugees. Irrespective of subsequent political developments, it will remain in the U. S. interest to assist all Laotian refugees associated with the struggle for freedom in Laos.

7. KMT Irregulars, largely in Thailand.

Some 3,000--5,000 anti-Communist Chinese irregulars, militant in nature and action, have created problems in Thailand and Burma. Most of these are now in Thailand, being the residue left from the resettlement of larger numbers to Taiwan at U. S. instigation. This problem has exacerbated U. S.--Burma relations and presents special problems for Thailand.

The United States should assist in any feasible plan for resolving this problem through the resettlement of the KMT irregulars on a basis of self-dependency, preferably in Thailand.

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8. Algerian Refugees and Algerians Displaced within Algeria.

The seven years' struggle for Algerian independence caused the flight of 300,000 refugees to Morocco and Tunisia from which countries they are now being repatriated to Algeria. Two million additional Algerians were uprooted from their homes and placed in regroupment centers by French authorities. For both of these groups their re-establishment within Algeria on a productive basis will require massive and organized relief and rehabilitation programs.

The United States should provide substantial assistance in the carrying out of such program, as a necessary measure toward ensuring social and economic stability within Algeria. Such assistance would also enhance U. S. prestige in Algeria, and help cement good relations with the future Algerian Government.

9. Refugee Problems in the Congo.

There are 150,000 refugees from Angola in the Congo who are presently in the process of being resettled within the Congo, and tens of thousands of Baluba refugees displaced from their native habitat by tribal warfare. There are also 60,000 refugees from Ruanda in the Kivu Province of the Congo. It is to U. S. interests to assist in the prompt resolution of these problems, through local resettlement or voluntary repatriation. This objective is consistent with and a part of the basic U. S. objective

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of securing political and economic equilibrium within the Congo and the emergence of a unified Congo State dedicated to genuine independence and freedom. Such assistance will help remove the conditions of want, chaos and disorder which offer opportunities for the enlargement of Communist influence. United States assistance to Angolan refugees will additionally serve as a mark of sympathy toward Angolan aspirations for independence.

10. Refugees from Ruanda.

170,000 Tutsi refugees have fled from the antagonistic Hutu majority in Ruanda: 25,000 to Uganda, 10,000 to Tanganyika, 40,000 to Zaire, 60,000 to the Kivu Province of the Congo and 35,000 within Ruanda. They largely present urgent relief needs in their present situations. Efforts are being made to re-establish these refugees locally within their countries of present residence. There is definite danger that those in foreign countries, following Ruanda's independence July 1, may seek to return to Ruanda and seize power.

United States objectives with respect to Ruanda are to bring about peace, tranquility and stability within that country following independence. The United States should assist in resolving the refugee problem within the frame-work of that policy, either through resettlement abroad or peaceable voluntary repatriation. United States assistance should be afforded in a manner designed to obviate the outbreak of violence in any sector.

11. Refugees from

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11. Refugees from the United Arab Republic and other North African Countries.

Certain North African governments, notably the UAR, are practicing repressive economic measures against European minorities resident in such countries, many of whom are or were citizens of such countries. Some of these people have sought asylum or resettlement in other countries. Others are still trying to do so although opportunities are limited.

The United States should assist in the re-establishment in other countries of such refugees, in order to reduce local frictions and to maintain our tradition of extending help to victims of political or racial discrimination.

12. Meritorious Exiles.

There are a number of refugees or persons who were formally refugees (chiefly from Communist countries) who have rendered valuable service to the United States Government but who due to age or other considerations are no longer able to do so, and who are now in need. Some of these are persons who formally held positions of prominence in their native countries and were exiled after the advent of Communist regimes. There are also some cases of diplomats of countries with which the United States has friendly relations who have been exiled by political revolutions because of past friendship for and assistance to the United States.

It is to the political advantage of this country that the United States lend helpful assistance to persons of this type who have earned or furthered our objectives. Specialized U. S. assistance should therefore be extended to such persons, according to their individual needs, and on an unpublished basis, wherever necessary.

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13. Students